

A NEW SPECIES OF APHELOCHEIRUS FROM AUSTRALIA
(HEMIPTERA, NAUCORIDAE).

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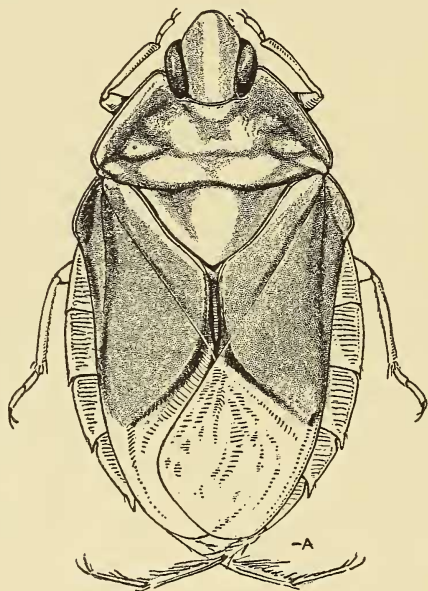
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The subfamily Aphelocheirinae is predominately palaearctic, with a few species occurring in the Oriental Region and in Africa. Both geographically and systematically the closest known relative of this first Australian species of *Aphelocheirus* is *pallens* Horvath. *Pallens* was described in 1899 from a single macropterous specimen collected by Biro in New Guinea. I am indebted to my friend Dr. J. F. Illingworth, of Honolulu, for the unique and likewise macropterous specimen described below.

APHELOCHEIRUS AUSTRALICUS *sp. nov.*

Elongate-oval; head, pronotum, and scutellum polished; the body beset with scattered, very inconspicuous short hairs. Head longer than broad, 22::21; strongly produced before the eyes, the anteocular portion twice as long as postocular portion, its sides convergent and straight, broadly rounded at apex; length almost one and three-quarters as great as width of interocular space anteriorly; interocular space rather evenly divergent anteriorly, its width ratio at base and apex 10::13; disk tumid, distinctly punctate except at extreme apical margin; gula scarcely elevated. Eyes two and one half times as long as broad. Labrum scarcely broader than long, rounded apically. Rostrum attaining level of apices of intermediate coxae. Pronotum two and one half times as broad posteriorly as width of head including eyes; much shorter than head on median line, 13::22; coarsely punctate on elevated median disk, the depressed sides almost impunctate; anterior angles almost right angles, narrowly rounded; sides strongly dilated posteriorly, feebly rather evenly arcuate, the postero-lateral angles suddenly rounded, then feebly, angulately emarginate; posterior margin extending well behind level of posterior angles, distinctly roundly emarginate before middle of scutellum. Scutellum almost twice as broad as long; sub-basally transversely depressed, the depression following sinuation of hind margin of pronotum; strongly elevated behind the depression, its sides sinuate; subacute at apex. Hemelytra exceeding tip of abdomen; commissure of clavus subequal in length to scutellum; embolium strongly dilated basally, its sides feebly, evenly arcuate and then suddenly strongly rounded and converging, behind which the embolium continues, ever-narrowing, to apical third of corium, its sides straight or slightly concave; apical margin of corium sub-rectilinear, its outer apical angle produced posteriorly, then abruptly, obliquely turned forward to the margin. Connexivum broadly exposed, the postero-lateral angles progressively more acuminately produced on the hindmost segments, little more than right angles on first visible segment, distinctly, acuminately produced on fourth segment. Venter strongly elevated at middle, especially posteriorly, the fourth, fifth, and sixth segments each bearing three or four closely grouped spines at middle of their posterior borders. The lateral genital plates of seventh segment broad basally, narrowed apically, their outer margins subangular at basal fourth. Apices subtruncate, contiguous on anterior half, forming a small triangular emargination at apex of abdomen well beyond tip of subgenital plate.

Colour testaceous to fulvous, the pronotum transversely at centre and head fulvous. Pronotum within the testaceous lateral margins, anterior dilation and narrowly along inner apical margin of embolium, base of scutellum, outer apex of corium, and basal three-fourths of connexival segments, especially laterally within the yellow border, pale fuscous. Pronotum behind indistinct transverse impression and disk of scutellum in great part paler, fusco-testaceous. The rest of the hemelytra much darker fuscous, the membrane smoky, subhyaline, and obscurely spotted. Eyes black. Beneath lightly infuscated, the gula, appendages, except for tawny apex of rostrum and spines, and spiracular rosettes testaceous.



APHELOCHEIRUS AUSTRALICUS Usinger.

Size: Length, 8.75 mm.; width (connexivum), 5 mm.

Holotype, female, Cairns, North Queensland, 18, ¶ 125, J. F. Illingworth, in my collection deposited on loan in the type collection of the California Academy of Sciences.

Related to *pallens* Horvath in general form, prolongation of connexival angles, and long narrow head but differing from that species in the broader pronotum with postero-lateral angles feebly angulately emarginate and posterior margin more strongly, roundly emarginate at middle and the almost unicolorous embolium with rounded sides of anterior dilation.
